



APPROVED MINUTES

June 6, 2011

The Edmonds Arts Commission: dedicated to the arts, an integral part of community life.
City of Edmonds Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department

PRESENT:

Samantha Saether, Chair
Mary Monfort
Joanne Otness

Lois Rathvon
Todd Timmcke

STAFF
Frances Chapin
Kris Gillespie

AUDIENCE
Carrie Hite – Director, Parks,
Rec & Cultural Services

ABSENT: Excused - Pam Harold, family emergency. Suzy Maloney, work conflict.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by Samantha Saether, Chair.

MINUTES

Monfort **MOVED**, Otness **SECONDED** the May 2, 2011 minutes be approved as sent. **MOTION CARRIED.**

INTRODUCTIONS

Carrie Hite, the new Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, introduced herself and told a little about herself and her background which included working in Ecuador with the Peace Corps. She comes to Edmonds from the City of Kirkland where she was Deputy Director of Park and Rec. Each of the Commissioners introduced themselves.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

Legislative Report under Other Business

PROGRAM REPORTS

Creative Programming – Program

1. **Public Art – Flower Poles** – Chapin circulated a photo showing the almost finished sculptures by Peter Reiquam for the next three flower poles. They will be located toward the west end of Main St.
2. **On the Fence Proposal** – Saether reported that one proposal was received for art “on the fence” at ArtWorks. The proposal, from Mona Smiley Fairbanks, is for sheet metal flowers to be attached to the fence with zip ties. The Commissioners had several questions for the artist that Chapin will ask her about use of color, strength and method of the attachment, how much of the fence will be used, and how she is finishing the cut edges of the metal. Otness **MOVED**, Monfort **SECONDED** the acceptance of Fairbanks artwork proposal. **MOTION CARRIED.** Chapin suggested inviting the artist to give a public talk about her design concept and process. This might also draw attention to the temporary sculpture opportunity and encourage other applications. Monfort **MOVED** allocation of \$100 from budgeted funds for an artist talk, Timmcke **SECONDED**, **MOTION CARRIED.**
3. **Concert Host Sign-ups** – Saether circulated the sign-up sheet for Summer Concert hosts. Gillespie has sent the schedule to the Council and Mayor as well. Gillespie circulated a sign-up sheet for flyer/poster distribution.
4. **WOTS** – Otness reported that the presenters have been selected and arranged into the weekend schedule. She also mentioned that WOTS will share a promotional table with Seattle Freelances at the PNWA conference in August. Gillespie has sent presenter contracts and is working on the brochure text. She has also contacted Event Rebels and is beginning the set up for on-line registration.

Cultural Destination

1. **Cultural Heritage Tour** – Chapin reported that she, Gillespie and Otness attended the public meeting about the Cultural Heritage Tour of Downtown Edmonds and 4th Avenue. About 20 people were present including representatives from each of the partner organizations (Arts Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, Edmonds Museum, Edmonds Center for the Arts, Edmonds Community College and Edmonds Arts Festival Foundation). Four people at the meeting indicated interest in being interviewed and shared some of their memories of businesses in the downtown in the 1940's and 50's. Several other people called the arts office in response to the meeting notice and offered information. All information collected will be archived at the Museum. This project is funded in part by a Preserve America Grant. Chapin will bring a "Call for Artists" to the July meeting for EAC review.
2. **Old Mill Town Plaza** – While Hite was still at the meeting Monfort asked her to update the Commission on her work with an advisory group that is helping to re-design the Old Mill Town Plaza. Hite talked about the importance of priorities in existing planning documents. Barker Landscaping has been engaged and is using the Floretum Garden Club design as a starting point. Consensus was reached at the first meeting about the importance of the gathering space, creation of a beautiful and educational garden, saving plants where feasible and eliminating unhealthy specimens, adding art elements, and maintaining visibility for businesses from the street. Several design alternatives will be presented to the advisory group at their second meeting before they make a final recommendation to City Council. Other considerations are about drainage, and that the design be buildable by City staff.

STAFF REPORT – no questions

OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Legislative Update** – Monfort asked what the results of the State budget deliberations. Chapin reported that Washington State Arts Commission has been retained as a separate entity, although with reduced funding. Continued funding for 4Culture by Lodging Tax revenues was passed at the final hour of the session. The motion picture competitiveness bill didn't fare as well. She also mentioned that the Washington State Arts Alliance/Foundation is in the search process for a new Executive Director.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40 PM